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CONCL.

141. The control method as claimed in claim 140, further comprising an eighth step of issuing a second control command indicating permission of use to the upper control terminal means which issued the first control command to the control target selected at the seventh step.

142. The control method as claimed in claim 140, further comprising a ninth step of, when at the seventh step there are a plurality of control targets that are selected, selecting the control target in a reserved state alone to which the first control command is issued.

143. The control method as claimed in claim 142, further comprising a tenth step of issuing a second control command indicating permission of use to the upper control terminal means which issued the first control command to the control target selected at the seventh step.

REMARKS

The specification and claims of this application are constituted by the submission filed September 26, 2000. Accordingly, this application contained claims 1-22.

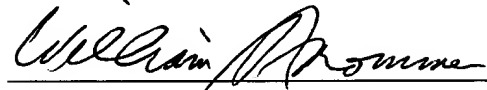
Amendments were submitted in the international application on which the instant U.S. application is based, to effect changes in and additions to the claims. By this preliminary amendment, the claims of the instant application are amended to conform to the amended claims present in the international application.

The examination of claims 23-143 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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